

OUR DAVIDSON - DAVISON FAMILY  
GENERATIONS

I. HUGH DAVISON

Born: Ireland

Died: County Cork, Ireland or South Carolina, USA ?

Married: Miss McCrory of Dublin, County Dublin, Ireland.

II. JOHN DAVISON

Born: Nov. 18, 1758, County Cork, Ireland

Died: 1834, Big Lynch Creek near Camden, Kershaw District, South Carolina.

Married: 1. Jennie King in Ireland 2. The widow Williams, SC?

III. JAMES DAVISON

Born: 1788, County Cork, Ireland.

Died: Monroe County, Alabama. after 1850.

Married: Elizabeth 'Betsy' Deason (b 178<sub>SC</sub>, d 184<sub>Al</sub>)

IV. ELIZA DAVISON BROWN

Born: Sept. 16, 1822, Monroe Co., Alabama

Died: Sept. 10, 1895, bur. Gumlog Bapt. Ch., Lauderdale Co., Mississippi.

Married: John Brown, Oct. 4, 1838, Monroe Co., Alabama.

V. ANN MARIAH BROWN WILSON

Born: Sept. 19, 1854, Bailey, Lauderdale Co., Mississippi

Died: Feb. 10, 1944, Obediah, Lauderdale Co., Mississippi

Married: Ulysses L. 'Fate' Wilson, March 26, 1871, Lauderdale Co., Miss.

VI. LYDIA E. WILSON WHITE

Born: Sept. 13, 1873, Obediah, Lauderdale Co., Miss.

Died: Dec. 5, 1963, Lauderdale Co.

Married: John Wesley White, Dec. 4, 1892, Obediah, Lauderdale Co., Miss.

VII. JAMES ERNEST WHITE

Born: Nov. 24, 1894, Obediah, Lauderdale Co., Miss.

Died: Dec. 20, 1970, Pine Springs, Lauderdale Co., Miss.

Married: Minnie Velma Hawkins July 4, 1915, Lauderdale Co., Miss.

VIII. JAMES MONROE WHITE, Sr.

Born: Oct. 24, 1923, Pine Springs, Lauderdale Co., Miss.

Died:

Married: Mary Ellen New, Dec. 23, 1946, San Antonio, Baxter Co., Texas

IX,A JAMES MONROE WHITE, Jr.

Born: March 7, 1950, Meridian, Ms.

Died:

Married:

IX,B JANICE ELLEN WHITE ASH

Born: Nov. 21, 1951, Meridian, Ms.

Died:

Married: Vernon Lee Ash, Sept. 8, 1978

X,A JAMES VERNON ASH

Born: March 21, 1974

X,B BRIAN LEE ASH

Born: June 11, 1979

X,C JOHN VINCENT ASH

Born: May 14, 1981

Compiled by  
MARY ELLEN WHITE

### HUGH DAVIDSON OF IRELAND

HUGH DAVIDSON was born in Ireland sometime in the early part of the 1700's. He married Miss \_\_\_\_\_ McCrory of Dublin in County Dublin, Ireland.

Hugh and his wife were living in County Cork, Ireland when their son John was born in 1758. John emigrated to the United States around 1788, leaving his parents in Ireland. It is not known if they had other children.

### JOHN DAVIDSON, SR. OF SOUTH CAROLINA

JOHN DAVIDSON was born in County Cork, Ireland, in 1758. He married Miss Jennie King in Ireland about 1780 and they had three children born in Ireland before they migrated to the United States.

John and Jennie Davidson came to America at about the close of the American Revolution around 1788. They settled in Kershaw District, South Carolina. They had three more children born in South Carolina before Jennie died, sometime between 1805-1815.

John took a second wife, Mrs. Williams, first name unknown. He died in 1834 in Kershaw District, on his farm, which was located on Big Lynch Creek near Camden, South Carolina. He was 76 when he died, and was buried near Big Lynch Creek.

John and Jennie (King) Davidsons' three oldest sons, migrated to Monroe County, Alabama, in the early 1820's.

Children:

#### I. JOHN DAVIDSON, JR.

Born: 1782, County Cork, Ireland Died: Oct. 15, 1863, Monroe Co, Alabama

Married: (1) Martha Ann Miller, SC (2) Elizabeth Ann Bateman, Ala.

Came to America with his parents when he was about three years old, grew up near Camden, South Carolina. Married Martha in SC, had children born there before he migrated to Alabama in early 1820's. Martha died and John, Jr. then married Elizabeth in Alabama, and had more children.

John died in Alabama at the age of 81.

Children:

1. JOHN DAVIDSON, III 1815SC-\_\_\_\_, m. Elizabeth \_\_\_\_\_ (b. 1829)

Was listed in 1850 Monroe Co. census as "John, Jr."

Children: (In 1850: perhaps had more later)

A. William N. Davidson 1839A1-

B. Marten A. Davidson 1845A1-

C. Isabella Davidson 1847A1-

2. HUGH B. DAVIDSON 1817SC-\_\_\_\_, m. Mary (Nettles?) (b. 1825), in Monroe Co. In 1850, Hugh B. was 33, married with three children, owned real estate valued at \$1000.

There was a Benjamin Deason, 15, living in household in 1850. Was this his Aunt Elizabeth (Deason) Davidson's relative?

Children: (In 1850)

A. Frances F. Davidson 1842A1-

B. Mary A. Davidson 1844A1-

C. Joseph S. Davidson 1846A1-

D. Minerva (?) Davidson 1848A1-

4. GEORGE DAVIDSON 1824~~SC~~-\_\_\_\_, m. \_\_\_\_\_ (?). Was living alone in house next to John Davidson, Jr. in 1850. He was 26, and unmarried, but owned real estate worth \$700.

3. Miller DAVIDSON 1820 AL- married MARGARET \_\_\_\_\_  
Real Estate value \$1000 in 1850 - WAS WORKING AS AN OVERSEER.  
Children: (In 1850)  
A. Charles 1847 AL-  
B. Emma 1850 AL-

5. ~~3~~ MARTHA DAVIDSON 1845AL  
6. ~~4~~ THOMAS DAVIDSON 1847AL-  
7. ~~5~~ MARIAH DAVIDSON 1849AL

[These three youngest children were listed with John Jr. in 1850 census, but he was getting rather old to keep on having children. They must have been children of his second marriage, to Elizabeth Bateman. Or it is possible that they were his grandchildren.]

### II. HUGH DAVIDSON

Born: Between 1782-1788, County Cork, Ire. Died: Before 1840 (Alabama?)  
Married: LYDIA HOLLEY (b.ca1781SC), in South Carolina. She was dau. of Richard, Sr. and Mary Holley of Kershaw Dist, SC. (Lydia was named in Richard's will)

Hugh died before the 1840 census, as Lydia was 60 years old, living with their oldest son Hugh, in the 1840 Monroe County, Ala. census. In 1849 her son, George Davidson's wife died, and she went to keep house for him and to look after his two small children. She was 70 years old in 1850.

Children:

1. HUGHEY E. DAVIDSON 1815SC- \_\_\_\_\_, m. Mary J. Andrews (b 1822), Jan. 25, 1838, Monroe Co, Ala.

Children:

- A. William P. Davidson 1839AL-  
B. Martha J. Davidson 1841AL-  
C. Lidia P. Davidson 1845AL-  
D. Newton Davidson 1848AL-  
E. Susanah Davidson 1850AL-

2. GEORGE W. DAVIDSON 1817AL- \_\_\_\_\_, m. \_\_\_\_\_.

George was married around 1843-43 in Monroe Co. They had two children when his wife died in 1849. His 70 year old mother was living with him and his children in the 1850 Monroe Co. census. His farm was worth \$1800 that year.

Children:

- A. B. C. Davidson (son) 1844AL-  
B. Virginia A. Davidson 1846AL-

3. JAMES M. DAVIDSON 1821AL- \_\_\_\_\_, m. Sarah J. \_\_\_\_\_ (b 1821)

In 1850, James was 29 years old, living with his wife and two wee children on his own \$800 farm in Monroe County.

Also living with James was Richard Turberville, 23, born in Ala: Jane L. Lysby, 53, born in Germany; Mary A. Lysby, 14, born in Ala. WHO are these people? His wife's relatives? Servants?

Children: (In 1850; maybe more born later)

- A. Francis M. Davidson 1846AL-  
B. Narcissa Davidson 1849AL-

### III. JENNIE DAVIDSON

Born: Kershaw District, So. Carolina Died: South Carolina??

Married \_\_\_\_\_ SMALL.

Did not migrate to Alabama with three older brothers.

### IV. WILLIAM DAVIDSON

Born: Kershaw Dist, SC

Died:

Married: (?)

Nothing is known of this son. Was not found in Monroe Co. May have remained in South Carolina.

V. VINCENT DAVIDSON

Born: South Carolina

Died:

Married: (?)

This was probably a child of second marriage. He may also have stayed behind with parents in South Carolina. Nothing is known about him.

VI. JAMES DAVIDSON

Born: 1788, County Cork, Ireland Died: Monroe County, Alabama.

Married: ELIZABETH "BETSY" DEASON, South Carolina.

Actually, this is child # 3 instead of # 6, but he is our line and I have a lot to say about his descendants, so I saved him till last.

James was born in Ireland and was brought to the United States by his parents, John and Jennie (King) Davidson, when he was quite young. He grew up and married in Kershaw Dist, SC. His wife was Betsy, Miss Elizabeth Deason.

James and Betsy had a small farm in South Carolina, but as their family grew, James saw that it wasn't big enough to support them. He hired out his older sons to other planters as they became big enough to work.

Soon after Alabama became a state in 1819, James and his two brothers, John and Hugh, began to talk about going west to find more land. They all sold out in the Carolinas in the early part of 1820 and taking their families, they migrated on to Alabama. They all found land and settled in Monroe County, Ala.

Hugh died a few years after they moved to the new land, but James and John appear in the 1840 and 1850 census of Monroe County. Hugh's widow is also in the 1840 and 1850 census, living with her grown, married sons.

All the Davidson's are listed in these years with their name spelled with a 'd'. However, in later years, some of the descendants dropped the 'd' and began to spell the name Davison. Take your choice; it is all the same family. James and John both gave their birthplace as Ireland, of course.

James and Betsy Davidson are listed in the 1840 census; James was 52 years old. By the 1850 census, Betsy had died and James, 62 years old, had no wife.

One of James' sons, William, married Miss Eliza Daniel in 1844. He had three small children when he died in 1849. His widow, Eliza moved in with old James Davidson, and is found living with him with her three children in the 1850 census.

I talked with Dr. George W. Davidson (Meridian, Ms. dentist) about 1970 when he was nearly 90 years old. He gave me much information on the descendants of James Davidson. Dr. Davidson said that there were ten children; seven sons and three daughters. He said that all came to Lauderdale County, Miss. except two sons that stayed behind with the father. He could not remember which two sons stayed behind. Dr. Davidson died not long after I spoke with him, so I never had a chance to question him further. Later, I wondered if the two that stayed in Alabama were the two that died there as young men, William and James L. Davidson. Also, I later found from records that James of Ireland had four daughters instead of three.

Anyway, according to Dr. Davidson, James Davidson's great grandson, all but two sons left Alabama and scattered out to Mississippi, Arkansas and Louisiana, and all the daughters married and left the state.

I have not found when James Davidson died.

## CHILDREN OF JAMES DAVIDSON

### I. LEVI DAVIDSON

Born: 1808, South Carolina

Died:

Married: JANE O'GWYNN (b 1808NC), cal1830, probably in Ala.

Moved to Monroe Co, Ala. with his father's family and appears in the 1840 and 1850 census there with his wife and children.

Children:

1. John O. Davidson 1832A1-
2. Margaret Davidson 1833A1-
3. Elizabeth Davidson 1835A1-
4. Jane Davidson 1837A1-
5. James C. Davidson 1838A1

6. Sarah Davidson 1840A1
7. Jasper S. Davidson 1842A1-
8. Polly A. Davidson 1845A1-
9. Levi N. Davidson 1848A1-

### II. JANE "JENNIE" DAVIDSON

Born: 1809, South Carolina

Died: Duffee, Newton Co, Miss.

Married: RANDOLPH "RAN" BROWN, ca 1830, Monroe Co, Alabama. He was son of John (W.?) Brown.

Her names appears in some records as Jane, in others as Jennie. Her family called her Jennie.

Ran bought land in Monroe County from his brother, Arthur Brown, on Dec. 7, 1837 (Sec.25,T-9,R-7E). They sold the land to a Mr. Locke in 1844 and moved to Lauderdale County, Miss. in 1846.

In Mississippi, they lived near Bailey, where they were members of the Fellowship Primitive Baptist Church at Gumlog, where Ran's younger brother, John Brown, became the minister. John had married Jennie's younger sister, Eliza, and they had also moved to Lauderdale County.

After the Civil War, Ran and Jennie sold out again and moved to Duffee, in Newton County, Miss., just over the line from Lauderdale Co. It is believed that Jennie and Ran both died in Newton County and were buried in the Duffee Baptist Church Cemetery (old Sessions Cemetery.) There are no headstones on their graves.

Children: (Ten daughters, no sons.)

1. Margaret Brown 1833A1- m. \_\_\_\_\_ Mott
2. Elizabeth Brown 1833A1- m. Archibald B. "Baldy" Freeman  
Was living in Lauderdale Co. in 1880.

Children: (Possibly had more)

- A. William Freeman 1852- m. Eliza \_\_\_\_\_ (b.1855)

Children:

- a. Ira Freeman 1872-
- b. Virgil Freeman 1876-
- c. Estella Freeman 1877-

- B. Martha Freeman 1855-

- C. Fletcher Freeman 1856- m. Eliza \_\_\_\_\_ (b.1860)

Children: (1880 census)

- a. John Freeman 1880-

- D. Mattie Freeman 18 - m. James "Jim" Eshee

- E. Mary Ann Freeman 18 - m. \_\_\_\_\_ McMullen

- F. Archibald Freeman 1863- m. (?) Had a big store in Union, Ms.

- G. Fate (Fayette?)(Lafayette?) Freeman 1864-

- H. Luella "Ella" Freeman 1866- m. (1) \_\_\_\_\_ Woodson (2) Randall Williamson

- I. Hughey Freeman 1870-

- J. Sinai Freeman 1876- m. \_\_\_\_\_ Rigdon

3. Eliza Brown (Twin) 1835Al- m. Ceeb? Seeb? (Seaborn?) Grice  
Had a farm near House, Neshoba Co,Ms. Later moved to Laurel,Ms.  
Children: Names Unknown.
  4. Jane Brown (Twin) 1835Al- m. Fletcher Grice, moved to Texas.  
Children: None.
  5. Sally Brown 1839Al- Died young.
  6. Anne E. Brown 1840Al- m. \_\_\_\_ Dearman. Farmed, near House, Neshoba Co.  
Children: Names Unknown.
  7. Martha Brown 1842Al- m. \_\_\_\_ Pierce. Lived near Duffee,Ms.
  8. Lucinda Brown 1845Al- m. Chas. C. Williamson. Lived near Duffee.  
Children: (May have had more.)
    - A. Randall Williamson m. Ella Freeman (cousin). Had large store, Duffee.
    - B. John William Williamson, MD m. \_\_\_\_ (?) Had several children. One was Donald Williamson, Lawyer, was at one time Atty. for city of Meridian.
    - C. Thomas "Tom" Williamson, Meridian lawyer.
  9. Frances C. Brown 1848Ms- m. \_\_\_\_ Green
  10. Arthur Serena Brown 1850Ms-1932, m. Rev. James H. Rhodes, an itinerant Methodist preacher who preached, among other places, at Liberty Meth. Ch. at Duffee, Ms. where both are buried. Were living in Beat 3, Lauderdale Co. in 1880.  
Children:
    - A. Mary Jane Rhodes 1869- m. William "Bill" Reese
    - B. Fanny Rhodes 1871- m. William Beaman, teacher.
    - C. Joseph Oliver Rhodes 1873- m. Mary Beamon, William's 1st cousin.
    - D. Laura Rhodes 1875- m. Colie Robinson
    - E. Alma Rhodes 1879- m. Ran Robinson
    - F. Rev. Randolph Shelton Rhodes 1880-1956, m. Minnie Lee Talbert, bur. Liberty Methodist Church near Duffee.
    - G. Cora Rhodes m. Frank Robinson
    - H. Harvey Rhodes m. Catherine Freeman, dau. of Fayette Freeman, cousin.
    - I. Thomas "Tom" Rhodes m. Annie Johnson.

### III. HUGH "HUGHEY" DAVIDSON

BORN DECEASED RESIDENCE  
Born: 1812, South Carolina      Died: Louisiana?

Married: Simantha (b 1816, Al) ca1833, Ala.

Came to Lauderdale Co, Miss. about 1846, probably in the same wagon train with his sisters, Eliza and Jennie. Was living in Miss. in 1850, later moved on to Louisiana where he had a large family. One of his grandsons, his namesake, Hughey Davison, started a dental supply house in New Orleans around 1907. He made a gold alloy used for filling teeth and made a fortune. Dr. George W. Davidson, (Meridian Dentist), went to a dental meeting in New Orleans and ran into Hughey Davison, his cousin. Up until that time, Dr. Davidson had not known what had become of his great-uncle, Hughey. Children: (Had more born after 1850)

Children: (Had more, born after 1850)  
1. M. B. (d. 1824) m. Brown

1. Mary Davidson 1834Al- m. Barnes??
  2. Elizabeth Davidson 1838Al-
  3. Charles Davidson 1841Al-
  4. William J. Davidson 1843Al-
  5. George Davidson 1845Al-
  6. Naressa (?) Davidson 1848Ms-

IV. JOHN DAVIDSON

Born: 1815, South Carolina

Died:

Married: NANCY BYNUM (b 1817A1) Jan.1, 1837, Monroe Co, Ala.

Children: (From 1850 Monroe Co. Census.)

1. James V. Davidson 1838A1-

3. Sara A. Davidson 1844A1-

2. Catherine Davidson 1840A1-

4. Abigail Davidson 1847A1-

V. CHAPMAN DAVIDSON

Born: 1816, South Carolina

Died: Lauderdale Co, Miss.

Married: CAROLINE ANDREWS (b 1821A1), Monroe Co, Ala.

As a young man, Chapman didn't have much money, so he hired out for wages, working as an overseer on a big plantation owned by the Andrews family. The Andrews' had a young daughter, Caroline, and she and Chapman fell in love.

The Andrews' thought that Chapman wasn't good enough for their daughter and discouraged the match by discharging Chapman from their employ. The separated lovers started writing to each other, using slaves as messengers. Caroline's parents found out and then, bowing to the inevitable, gave their consent for them to get married. They arranged a fine wedding for the young couple at their home. For a wedding gift, the Andrews gave them a 'married' pair of young slaves.

By the time the Civil War came in 1861, Chapman and Caroline were doing well. They had bought a bigger farm in Newton County, Miss. and their slaves had multiplied by 10, so they had good help for their fields.

The war took everything. His house was burned, his slaves freed, Chapman lost his land. He never could get back on his feet. He took squatters rights on public lands in western Lauderdale Co, Miss. and lived in poverty the rest of his life.

Children: (From 1850 Monroe Co, Ala. census and Dr. George W. Davidson)

1. Mary L. Davidson 1839A1-1850A1, eleven years old.

2. Henry Washington Davidson 1842A1- Ms. m.

Henry got married, joined the Confederate Army and went off to fight in the Civil War in 1862. He was captured and placed in a Yankee prison up north. He got pneumonia, called for his wife and little girl in his delirium. The Yankees, thinking that he was dying, felt pity and took up a collection and sent for his wife and child. Surprisingly, he recovered and after the war they had to stay north long enough for him to work and earn their tickets back to Mississippi.

Henry had grown up with slaves to do all the work and never did know how to be a good farmer. He never made a very good living after the war.

Dr. George W. Davidson, a son of Henry, gave this on the Chapman Davidson family. He said that he grew up in a poor family. He fell in love with Allie Wellborn, a daughter of Dr. D.M. Wellborn, when she was teaching school in Collinsville (Lauderdale Co). He wanted to be a dentist and Allie promised to wait for him to get through dental school in Nashville, Tenn. It took him a long time to finish school as he had to work every summer "by his way by 't ring the bushes". [This meant that he rode through the countryside, repairing or pulling teeth of the country folks that didn't get to town much. John Wesley White's older children remember when Dr. Davidson used to come by to fix all the children's teeth that needed it. He had a drill that he took with him in the back of his buggy. It had a foot pedal that he pedaled to make the drill turn. Ouch!]

When George finally graduated from dental school he came home to find that Allie had not waited, but had married Dr. Bennett Deason Pace (George's cousin). George was heartbroken and never forgot Allie. He was an old, old man when he was telling me about it and tears still came to his eyes.

Dr. Deason Bennett Pace, who married Allie Wellborn, was a relative of Dr. Davidson. Dr. Pace's mother, Martha Jane Deason, was a neice of Chapman Davison's mother, Betsy (Deason) Davidson. Martha Jane had married James L. Davidson, Betsy's son.. James L. Davidson died, and then Martha Jane married Bennett Rose Pace of Lauderdale Co. Dr. Deason Bennett Pace was their son.... Clear as mud?

3. Susan Davidson 1846Al- m. John Adkins
4. J. Stephen Davidson 1850Al-
5. James Davidson 185 Ms-
6. Betty Davidson 185 Ms- m. Jasper James.
7. Sinai Davidson 18 Ms- Did not marry.
8. Eliza Davidson 18 Ms- Did not marry.

VI. SALLIE DAVIDSON

Born: ca1818, South Carolina      Died: (May have died young)  
Married: (?)  
Nothing is known of this daughter.

VII. HESTER DAVIDSON TALBERT

Born: 1821, Alabama      Died: Mississippi (Neshoba Co?)  
Married: JOHN TALBERT, (b.1812Al) Oct.9,1838, Monroe Co, Ala.  
Came to Lauderdale County about 1846, probably with other members of her family. Was in Lauderdale Co. in 1850, later had a farm near Philadelphia, Miss. in Neshoba Co.

Children:

1. Precilla A. Talbert 1841Al-
2. Henry B. Talbert 1843Al-
3. Julia E. Talbert 1845Al- m. James "Jim" Mott
4. Susan A. Talbert 1848
5. Love Talbert (son) 185 Ms- m. \_\_\_\_\_ Eshee

VIII. ELIZA DAVIDSON

Born: Sept.16,1822, Monroe Co, Ala. Died: Sept.10,1895, Lauderdale Co.  
Married: CAPT. JOHN BROWN (b.1813Al) Oct.4,1838, Monroe Co, Ala.

Eliza fell in love with John Brown when she was just a child, twelve years old. They were going to get married and there is a record of John Brown applying for a license in Perry County, Ala. in 1834, but the wedding never took place. Her folks put a stop to it.

However, when she was sixteen, they did get married in Monroe County, with her parents' blessings. John was about nine years older than Eliza.

John and Eliza owned land in Sec.25 and 31 on Township 9, Range 7E, in Monroe County, and lived there until they decided to go west to join John's brother in Lauderdale County, Mississippi. In 1843 they sold their land to Whitson Green for \$400, and in 1846, they loaded up on wagons and joined a train to go to Mississippi. Other members of the Davidson and Brown families were in that wagon train - Randolph Brown and his family, the John Talberts, Eliza's brother Hughey and his wife and children. It was a long, hard trip to their new home, across hills, swamps, the big Tombigbee and the Alabama Rivers, which had to be ferried.

What a relief it must have been to arrive at the Arthur Brown home in Lauderdale County after weeks of being on the road, fighting mosquitoes and cooking over campfires.

John began to look for land to buy to begin a new farm, and soon found what he wanted. He bought land in the Northwest quarter of Section 36, Township 8, Range 15E. Their new farm joined the land of the little Gimlog church, the Fellowship Primitive Baptist. There was no house on their land and it had to be cleared before cotton could be planted, but John and Eliza were both young and strong and had hopes of turning it into a fine plantation.

They continued to live in their wagons and camp while John felled the trees to build their new log house. Randolph Brown bought land just north of John and Eliza and it is likely that they traded work with the hardest parts of the job. It was the custom back then for the 'settled' families to greet newcomers and to aid them in house-raisings and barn-building. The county was as yet hardly settled and new neighbors were greatly welcomed. In those early days one of their main forms of entertainment was for the community to come together with baskets of food and tools to work with, for a day of helping each other with some big job that needed doing. They had log rollings, quiltings, corn huskings, whatever needed doing. If a neighbor broke his leg or got a fever, the others of the community got together to gather his crop; this custom outlived the frontier stage and lasted up until modern times and the automobile.

Eliza, a social person, must have fit in well with the other ladies, as they shared their saved seeds, their patterns and their recipes. The Browns were church-going folks and never missed attending the services at the Fellowship Baptist Church. Soon after they arrived, John was elected church clerk. Eliza felt that just because they lived in a wilderness was no excuse for becoming uncouth. The church house was a rude log cabin with a sawdust floor, but she always dressed in her very best shawl and bonnet to attend services. She was appalled when she saw the buckskinned pioneers spit tobacco juice on the floor of the Lord's house, and could hardly hold her tongue until she got home. She felt that they could at least try to act civilized.

The community did become more 'civilized' with time. By 1860, John and Eliza were respected members of a more developed society. There was Bailey Store two miles south of their farm, and Rushing's Store a short distance to the northwest, although they raised most of the things they needed on their farm. Slaves were very expensive, but they had been able to buy a few, and that helped greatly with all the work that was needed to keep their place growing and producing.

As the years passed, John and Eliza's family increased. Eliza's eleventh and last baby, Susan Catherine, was born in 1861. Eliza, at 39, was still a young woman. All her children were well and growing, except for her firstborn, little William, who had died when he was a year old and another baby, James, who had died at birth. They were comfortably well-off financially, Eliza was mistress of a sturdy log home which she ran as if it were one of the fine houses in Charleston. She was always busy at some household task and she trained her daughters to help and to thus become good housewives. She had negroes to keep busy, which was a chore in itself. There was cooking, canning, preserving, sewing, mending, wash-

ing, ironing, spinning, weaving, cleaning, polishing, etc., etc.. that kept Eliza busy, either working with the other women of the household or directing their labors. Hers was a busy but a contented life.

Then came the war years. John, at forty-eight, didn't get into the conflict at first. He felt that the younger men could go and get the job over with quickly. As the conflict dragged on it became apparent that all were needed to save the South, and John joined the Confederate Army. Since he had had military training in his younger days, he was made a Captain and placed in charge of training the Southern plowboys and coon-hunters to be soldiers. He was stationed close to home at first and Eliza saw him often, but later he was sent to Corinth in the northern part of the state and then on into Tennessee.

Their oldest son, George, was seventeen and went off right away to fight. He was killed toward the end of the war, and then Eliza's next son, Fayette, ran away to fight the Yankees and to avenge his brother's death. He was fourteen when he left, just a boy that thought he was a man. He was killed in 1863.

Eliza tried to keep the farm running while the men were away. The war years dragged on, a troubled time of hardship and privation.

Eliza's oldest daughter, Sinai, had become a young lady and was married to a young neighbor who left near the beginning to fight at Vicksburg. Sinai had a baby, a little girl born while the father was away. The young mother never regained her strength and died in 1862. Grief-stricken, Eliza lavished her love on her tiny grandchild. After the war the father returned, but by that time, Eliza couldn't bear to give the child up. She pleaded to keep little Averella and the father, with his own world in turmoil, agreed to give her up. Averella grew up as another of the Brown children in the only home that she had ever known.

Home from the fighting, Capt. John Brown's religious experience was even greater than before. He and Eliza felt that their faith had helped them weather the past trials and had made them even stronger. John wanted to become a minister and so to help others to find their way. He was ordained by the elders of the Fellowship Church and began to preach. He soon became the regular minister of the Gumlog Fellowship Church, and remained the leader of the church for years, as long as his health would permit.

Times were hard, terribly hard, in the next few years. John and Eliza lost part of their farm because they could not pay the high taxes that were imposed following the Civil War. They were able to keep the land where their home was located, and slowly, by careful management, things began to improve for them. John's brother Ran, lost his farm and moved over to Duffee, where he was able to get another place. Eliza must have been saddened to see her sister Jennie leave, as they had lived next to each other always, before. Ran built a little church on his farm at Duffee and John rode over there twice a month to hold services there. Many times Eliza would go along to visit Jennie.

When she was 73, sprightly, busy Eliza became very ill. It was strange to think of her being in bed as long as there was work yet to be done. She died on 10 September, 1895. John buried her in the graveyard beside the Gumlog Church.

Children: (Mentioned briefly here; for more details, see Brown family.)  
1. William B. Brown 1839A1-1840A1, one year old.

2. Sinai Brown 1841A1-1862Ms, m. Oliver G. Brown (no relation)
3. James Monroe Brown 1843A1-1843A1, Infant.
4. George Washington Grown 1844A1-1863, Confed. soldier, died in Civil War
5. Hester Jane Brown 1847Ms-, m. Henry A. Revel
6. John Lafayette Brown 1849Ms-1863, Confed. soldier, died in Civil War.
7. Mark Anthony Brown 1852Ms-1924, m. Olive Rebecca White
8. Anna Mariah Brown 1854Ms-1924, m. U.L. "Fate" Wilson
9. Cornelius Robert Brown 1857Ms-1923, m. (1)Mollie Covington (2)Missouri "Zue" Covington (3)Elizabeth "Lizzie" Avera
10. Eliza Elizabeth Brown 1859Ms-1938, m. Abraham Obediah Ratcliff.
11. Susan Catherine Brown 1861-1948, m. Joseph T. Gunn

IX. WILLIAM DAVIDSON

Born: 1825, Monroe Co, Ala. Died: July, 1849, Monroe County.  
Married: Eliza DAniel (b.1823A1), Feb.4,1844, Monroe Co, Ala.

In the 1840 Monroe Co. census, William was unmarried, living in the house next to his father. He was married in 1844, had three children, and then died in 1849. By 1850, his widow was listed with his children, living with his father, old James Davidson. He had been married five years and died at age 24.

It is not known what became of the young widow.

Children:

1. Anna Davidson 1843A1-
2. Elizabeth Davidson 1845A1-
3. Wiley Hugh Davidson 1848A1-

XI. JAMES L. "JIMMY" DAVIDSON

Born: 1828, Monroe County, Ala. Died: 1851(?), Monroe County.  
Married: Martha Jane Deason (b.1826), Dec.29,1843, Monroe Co, Ala.

Martha Jane Deason was the neice of Jimmy's mother, Elizabeth Deason Davidson. Martha Jane's younger brother, Edward Deason (b.1821SC)lived next house on one side of her and Jimmy, and Jimmy's brother, Chapman Davidson, lived next house on the other side. So you might say that their small farm was surrounded by family.

Jimmy's only child, a daughter they named Eliza Francis, was born there in 1849. Jimmy was listed in the 1850 census (22 yrs old) but died soon thereafter.

Somehow, the widow, Martha Jane, traveled from Monroe County, Alabama to Lauderdale County, Mississippi with her small child, Eliza. It is possible that she traveled with her brother Edward Deason and his family, although it has not been established that he moved to Mississippi. Or she may have traveled with some of her late husband's folks. But arrive in Lauderdale county she did, where she met Mr. Bennet Rose Pace, a widower who owned a farm about 1½ miles west of the home of John Brown, who was married to Jimmy's sister Eliza.

Mrs. Martha Jane Davidson met Bennet R. Pace in Lauderdale County and they were married there on October 8, 1854. They had six children, one of whom was Dr. Deason Bennet Pace, who married Allie Wellborn (see #V, Chapman Davidson.)

Jimmy's daughter Eliza grew up in the Pace home.

Children:

1. Eliza Francis Davidson 1849A1-1928Ms, m. David E. Brown, 1868, Lauderdale Co. He was son of David M. and Eliza (Fort) Brown, well-to-do

farmer that lived in (now) Center Hill community, Lauderdale Co. He had no relationship with Capt. John Brown's Brown family.

Children:

1. Jack Alonzo Brown, MD 1873-1970's, worked with Miss. School for the Blind, Jackson, Ms. many years.
2. Mary Jane "Molly" Brown 1874- m. David Deason Pace, Lauderdale Co.
3. Andrew Wesley Brown 1876- m. Anna Rose Pratt, dau. of Joseph A. and Mary Pratt.
4. John Brown 1878- m. Marcella \_\_\_\_\_

XII. GEORGE DAVIDSON

Born: 1829, Monroe Co, Ala.

Died: (Arkansas?)

Married: Frances R.

Was living in Lauderdale Co, Miss. in 1850, appearing in census with his young bride. Some think that he may have moved to Arkansas.

Children: Unknown.

(Dr. G.W.Davidson said that one of James Davidson's sons migrated to Arkansas where he had a large family. One of the sons returned to Lauderdale County around 1900 for a visit, stayed about six months. Dr. Davidson tried to remember his name, thought it might have been Monroe, but couldn't be sure.)

more like 1920

Name Silas

7/18/90

(Consent of parents if bride is under age.)	(Security)	Exhibits the within on the 4th September 1838 W. C. Franklin S. P.	This is to certify that the title of Matrimony has been exhibited on the within license this 9th day Oct 1838 Daniel Gore S. P.
James Boy, man 22" to Miss Martha Morris	(James Boyman to Miss Martha Morris)	John Brown Oct 1st to Miss Eliza Davison	John Tolbert Oct 9th to Miss Eliza Davison
			This is to certify that the title of Matrimony has been exhibited on the within license this 9th day Oct 1838 Daniel Gore S. P.

Wedding record of John Brown and Miss Eliza Davison, married Oct. 4, 1838.  
Also, record of Hester Davison, Eliza's sister, to John Tolbert, Oct. 9, 1838.  
Recorded in Wedding Book A, page 47, Monroeville, Monroe Co., Alabama.